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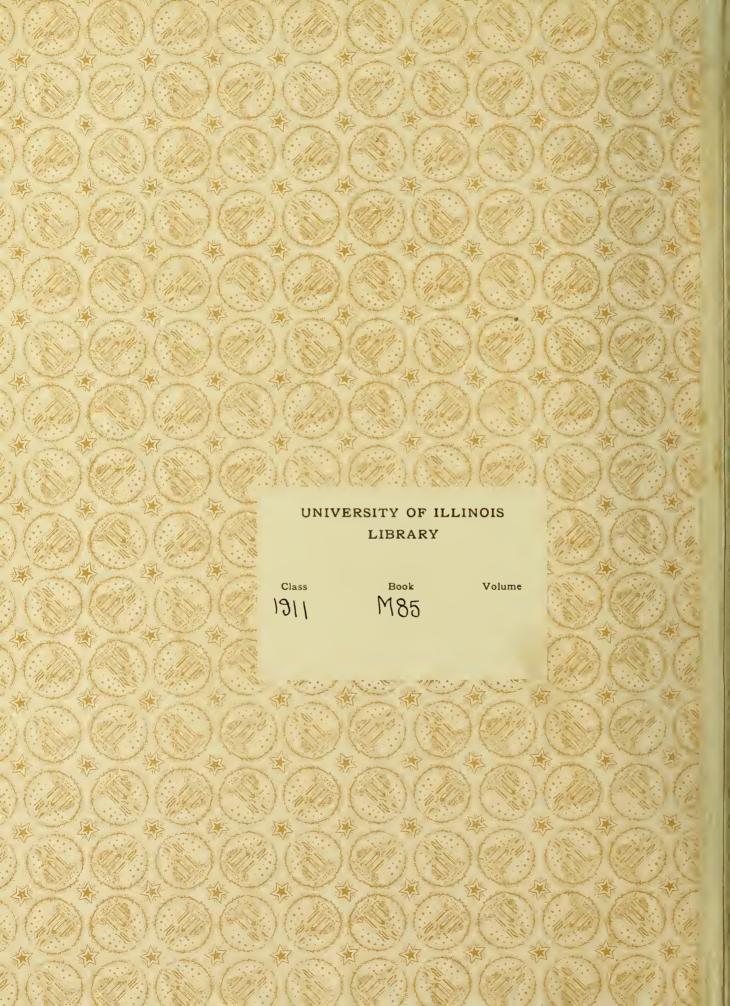
A Students' Union Building

Architecture

B. S.

1911







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A STUDENTS' UNION BUILDING

BY

JOSEPH EDWARD MOSIMAN

THESIS

FOR

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

IN

ARCHITECTURE

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
PRESENTED JUNE, 1911

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

JUNE 1, 1901.

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JOSEPH EDWARD MOSIMAN ENTITLED A STUDENTS' UNION BUILDING

IS APPROVED BY ME AS FULFILLING THIS PART OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ARCHITECTURE

Frederick Mann

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF _ ARCHITECTURE



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A Students Union Building.

The purpose of this building is to supply a much felt want in the student community at the University of Ellinois--- a suitable place for the male students to go and spend their time during idle moments or evenings.

The problem requires a building which will impress all students as a place of rest and comfort, whether he be a fraternity man or "barb", Japanese or American, rich or poor, a man of leisure or a "grind".

Thus, the architecture in the building must be cheerful, and rather gay, and must be of such a character that it naturally inspires one with a feeling of rest and comfort, while at the same time, one must feel that here he can spend an hour or two very pleasantly at some favorite past time or recreation.

The designer has tried faithfully to carry out these ideas in both the interior and exterior of a Union Building for the students of Illinois.

The building is to be a combination of brick and buff stone, arranged so as to get a cheerful effect, both by form and color. A pleasing effect of light and shade is obtained by allowing the cornice to project, showing brackets and rafter ends; and by the use of balconies and vases beneath the second story windows. The logic at the entrance, with the gallery above, produces a beautiful play of shadows, suggesting



cool seats to the pascer-by. The shape of the window openings, the vases and flowers, the red tile roof, -- all these are designed so as to get the most pleasing effect possible. The general outline must be simple, but not severe; carving and sculpture must be kept subdued; the building as a unit must be plain, neat, and clean cut.

As the building is to be located on the campus, there must be some connection between this and the other buildings; yet, it must be plainly written in the design that this is a Club House and not a common University Building. It has been attempted to make the use of the building apparent by means of the galleries and logia, and the general play of light and shade, and the surrounding terraces and pergolas.

Naturally, the Club House should be located as near the central part of the campus as possible, so that it may be easily reached by all the students. It is to be set well back from the street so as to allow room for shrubbery, walks, and fountains. Tennis courts, flower gardens, pergolas, walks, and pools are to be located in the surrounding grounds.

The same idea of cheer must be maintained on the inside of the building. The tile floors must contain pleasing geometric forms, the walls must be neatly panelled and decorated, there must be cheerful fireplaces and seats; in fact, the design of the interior must be even more pleasing than the exterior.



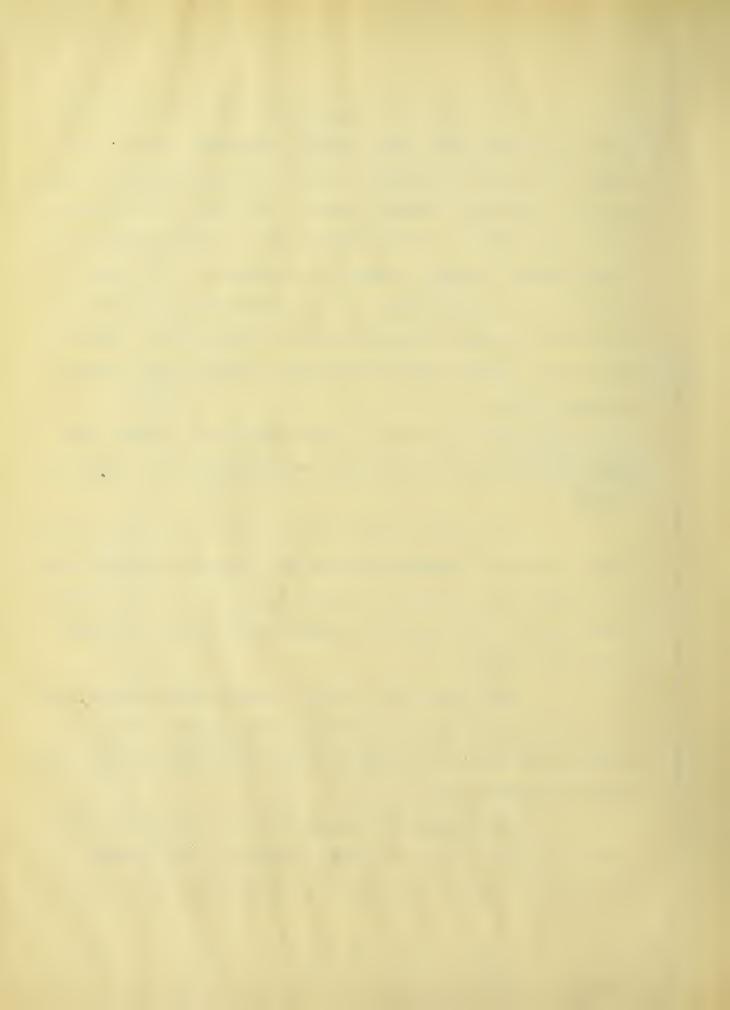
The main lobby opens into a large billiard and pool room on the left, and a banquet and smoker room on the right. The latter room is to be used for class banquets, class smokers, elections, meetings and etc. The lobby also opens directly into a logia surrounding a patrio or closed court, containing vases, flowers, statues, a fountain etc. The logia is to serve as a direct communication between the lobby and the various meeting and literary society rooms on either side of the patrio, and the large lounging and reading room opposite the main lobby.

This large room is the real Union, as here the student will find books, pleasant window seats, and plenty of company.

A stairway leads from one end of this room to the foyer of the small auditorium over the lounging room. The auditorium, with the gallery, will seat about six or seven hundred people, and is to be used for amateur theatricals, concerts, dances, meetings etc.

The auditorium, as the lounging room beneath, opens directly upon the gallery surrounding the patrio. The gallery connects the various meeting and committee rooms with the auditorium and trophy room.

The trophy room is directly over the main lobby, and is to contain all the banners, cups, and trophies won by all athletic teams of Illinois. At either end of the trophy



room, is a club room for the athletic organizations.

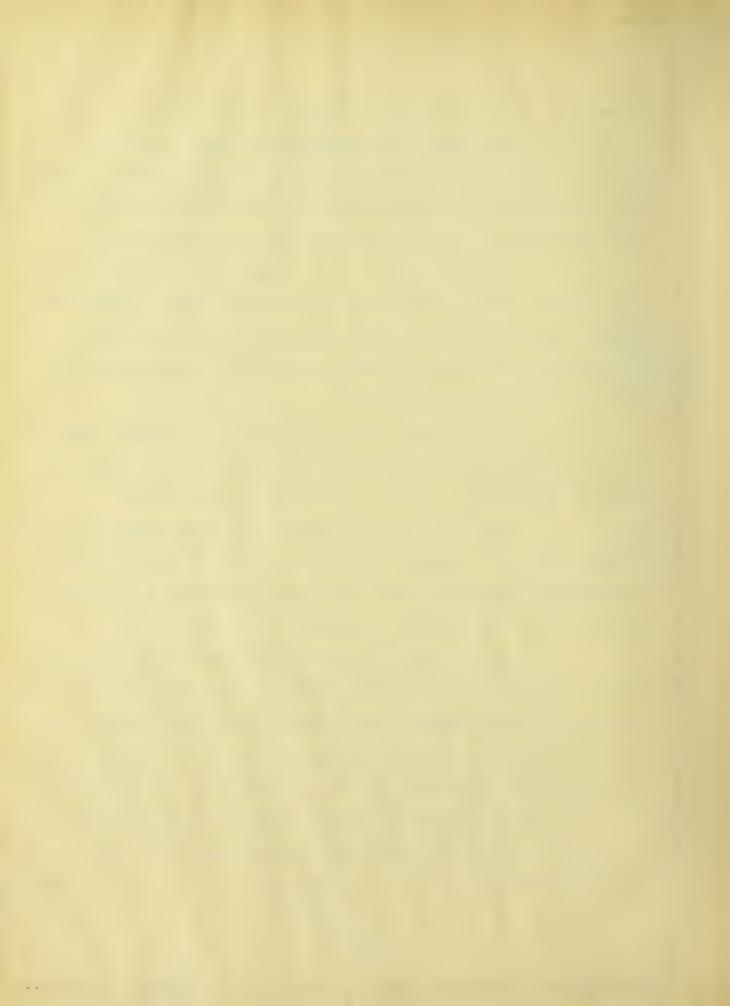
The third floor extends only over the trophy room, and on account of its pleasing form and location, is to be used as a club room for the Architectural Club, Pen and Brush Club, and any other art club that may be organized at Illinois.

In the basement, are located several bowling alleys, shower baths, locker rooms toilets etc. Also a barber shop, small restaurant or cafe, and clgar stands. Offices for the University publications, such as the Illini, Technograph, etc. will be located in the basement.

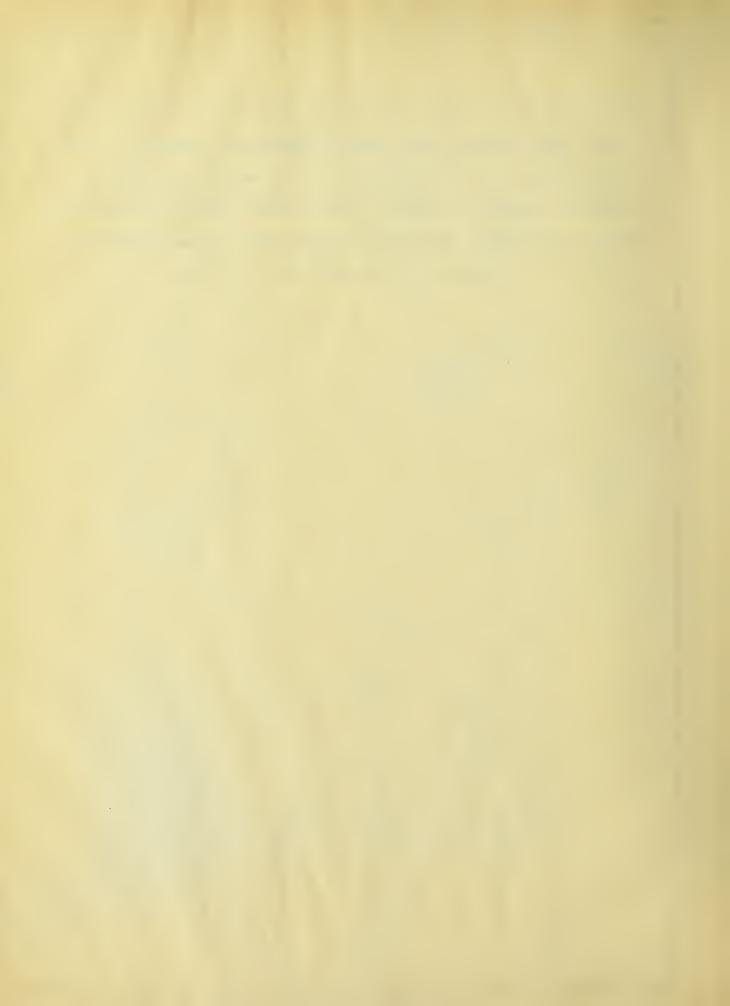
The building is to be heated by a central steam heating station, and ventilation is to be forced by the plenun method, the pump of which is located in the basement.

Indirect electric lighting is to be used in all rooms where the method is advisable. All vestibules, lobbies, meeting and committee rooms, game and banquet rooms, and the foyers are to be lighted indirectly.

The building, internally and externally including surroundings of terraces and walks, is to be very cheerful and gat. The designer has endeavored to keep this in mind, as the one purpose of such a building is to provide a place which will attract the students and at the same time, serve to uplift and raise their ideals, by bringing them into contact with good pieces of statuary and paintings, good architecture, and a good fellowship and society. If the young men will spend their



idle moments here instead of going down town to frequent the public billiard and pool rooms, or gambling resorts, or even worse places; if the building has been made attractive and cheerful enough to overcome these natural desires of the average student; then the designer feels that he has solved the problem of a successful Students Union Building.



Program

The primary o'ject of this building is to furnish a much needed building where all male students of the University may feel free to congregate at any hour of the day, either for rest, recreation, pleasure or to study and read.

Recreation Buildings, and as such, the architecture must necessarily be bright, pleasant, not too gay, and cheerful. It must be designed in such a way that students from all of the colleges, and of the most varying dispositions are mutually attracted and charmed when in its surrounding gardens and pergolas, or when strelling in the pictures of pleases and logias; or during stormy weather, within the warm and comfortable libraries and reading rooms. All students rich or poor, fraternity or non-fraternity, democratic or republican, must be made to feel the warmth and cheer of a common meeting place.

The building must contain the following rooms:

- 1 Vestibule and Lobby.
- 2 Large Living or Lounging Room.
- 3 Libraries and Raading Rooms.
- 4 Smoking and Conservation Rooms.
- 5 Game Rooms, Billiards, Pool, Cards, etc.
- 6 Bowling Alleys.



- 7 Toilets and Coat Rooms.
- 8 Locker Rooms and Shower Baths.
- 9 Banquet and Dance Hall.
- 10 Meeting Rooms for the Committees.
- 11 Assembly Rooms for the Literary Societies etc.
- 12 Large Assembly Room or Auditorium.
- 13 Offices for the Illini and other University Publications
- 14 Club Rooms for the Athletic Organizations, Musical Clubs.
 Art Clubs etc.
 - 15 Service Rooms, Janitor Rooms etc.

The drawings required -----

- 1 Elevation.
- 2 Section.
- 3 Plans.
- 4 Perspertive.



Bibliography.

The following books are some of the sources of general information in the solution of this problem, and of general ideas in design:----

Les Me'dailles.

Comeours Publics.

Materiaux et Documents.

Grands Prix de Rome.

Croquis D'Architecture

Brick-builder.

American Competition.

Architectural Record.

The greatest inspiration, however, came directly from Professor David Varon, and if the problem has been sucessfully handled, the credit is de to his faithful and untiring efforts and perseverance.

